Amendments to the Claims

1. (currently amended) A software ~~component~~ product containing a medical-imaging visualization application, the software ~~component~~ product comprising computer executable instructions embodied on a computer readable medium that are configured when executed to function as a model component in a model-view-controller software architecture, and having an interface having a set of user interface control parameters and a set of data handling parameters, the sets of parameters being chosen to allow flexible integration of the visualization application into a proprietary Picture Archiving and Communications Systems (PACS) network.

2. (currently amended) A software ~~component~~ product according to claim 1, wherein the data handling parameters are Digital Imaging and Communications in Medicine (DICOM) format data handling parameters.

3. (currently amended) A software ~~component~~ product according to claim 1, wherein the software ~~component~~ product is a sub-component of a pre-existing data visualization application.

4. (currently amended) A software ~~component~~ product according to claim 3, wherein the software ~~component~~ product includes a software wrapper, the software wrapper being configured to map the sets of parameters of the interface to parameters appropriate for the ~~subcomponent~~ sub-component.

5. (currently amended) A software ~~component~~ product according to claim 1, wherein the user interface control parameters include any of: two-dimensional (2D) tool parameters, three-dimensional (3D) tool parameters, sculpting parameters, display decoration parameters, preset parameters, region of interest select parameters, volume rendering parameters and image display parameters.

6. (previously presented) A PACS network including a logic device for executing instructions of a software component containing a medical-imaging

visualization application, the software component configured to function as a model component in a model-view-controller software architecture, and having an interface having a set of user interface control parameters and a set of data handling parameters, the sets of parameters being chosen to allow flexible integration of the visualization application into the PACS network.

7.   (original) A PACS network according to claim 6, wherein the data handling parameters are DICOM format data handling parameters.

8.   (previously presented) A PACS network according to claim 6, the PACS network including a specific glue bridge software component, the specific glue bridge being configured to accommodate non-standard aspects of the PACS network.

9.   (original) A PACS network according to claim 8, wherein the non-standard aspects of the PACS network include a non-standard data format.

10.   (original) A PACS network according to claim 9, wherein the non-standard data format is a compressed data format.

11.   (original) A PACS network according to claim 8, wherein the non-standard aspects of the PACS network include non-standard data handling.

12.   (original) A PACS network according to claim 11, wherein the non-standard data handling relates to proprietary grouping of data.

13.   (previously presented) A PACS network according to claim 6, the PACS network including a dispatcher software component, the dispatcher being configured to link multiple software components corresponding to multiple software applications to the PACS network via a common interface.

14.   (original) A method of offering a medical-imaging data visualization application to a PACS network integrator, the method comprising:

providing a first version of the application contained in a high-level software component;

providing a second version of the application contained in a plurality of lower-level software components; and

allowing the integrator to decide between use of the different versions for integrating the application into a PACS network.

15.   (previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein the high-level software component is configured to function as a model component in a model-view-controller software architecture, and has an interface having a set of user interface control parameters and a set of data handling parameters.

16.   (original) A method according to claim 15, wherein the data handling parameters are DICOM format data handling parameters.

17.   (original) A method according to claim 14, wherein at least a subset of the lower-level software components relate to underlying technical functions of the application.

18.   (original) A method according to claim 14, further comprising:
providing a third version of the application contained in a plurality of intermediate-level software components.

19.   (original) A method according to claim 18, further comprising:
providing at least a fourth version of the application contained in a plurality of software components of a different level.